

B. GUILT AND SHAME

8.10.24. The children were standing at the door, watching a heavy shower of rain. They heard the rustling noise of the rain on the leaves, and when something was said about this, George remarked, " Perhaps it's God saying He will punish us for doing things we shouldn't."

16.10.24. George, using the plasticine, made a snake and said, " I have a fat snake in my bed which might bite me."

27.10.24. The elder boys wanted to shut some of the younger ones into a hut as a " prison ". Frank, Harold and Paul often suggest, and sometimes do this.

October 1924. Penelope and Dan went to tea with Mrs. I. They played with a small statuette of a boy, as a doll baby. They wrapped him up and put him to bed. Suddenly Penelope uncovered him and said, in a shocked tone, " Oh, look what he's done—he's wet his bed, the naughty, naughty baby."

7.11.24. Benjie, after lunch, dropped the water-jug accidentally. He looked quickly at Mrs. I., laughed excitedly, then kicked it across the room; he was about to kick it downstairs. Mrs. I. asked him not to do so, but before she could get near he had done so, and broken it. Then he was very defiant, shouting, " I'll hit you in the face ; I'll not come to school any more," and so on. This was clearly remorse that took the form of defiance.

10.11.24. When Benjie spat into the pudding dish, and Mrs. I. hastily said, " Now you can't have any pudding," he threw his plate on the floor and broke it. Then he cried very bitterly in anger and defiance.

21.11.24. In the afternoon, Paul, when running round, said, " Shall we call Benjie 'the breaker' ? "

26.11.24. Harold had made a large house of plasticine bricks, and the children talked of " Naughty Mary " who lived in this house and " had not kept the fire in ".

28.11.24. When the children were using scissors for cutting out, George applied them to his own finger and pressed

sufficiently hard to make it bleed, Frank and Dan saying to him, " Harder, harder." Dan then took scissors and also tried, George saying to him, " Hard, harder," but Dan did not make his finger bleed.

November 1924. One day Frank ran towards the lavatory, then stood still and began to cry desperately, " Oh, I'm doing it in my trousers—oh, do look and see if I have done it in my